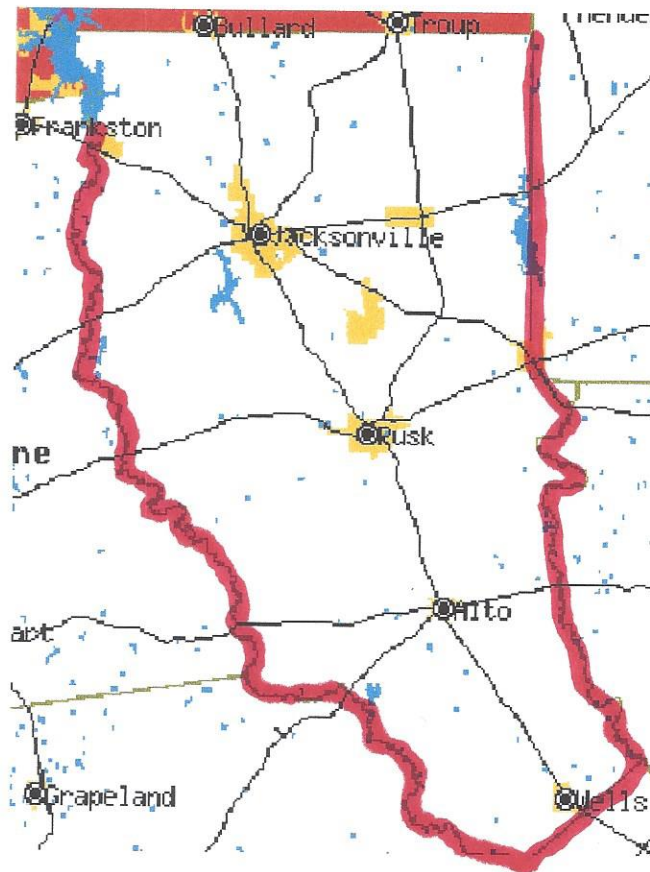


TREE TALK



CHEROKEE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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A Non-Profit Organization

ISSN 0736-7678

www.facebook.com/CherokeeCGS

Cherokee County Genealogical Society was organized in 1975. Its purpose is to promote interest in genealogical research and the preservation of family history. Annual membership dues are \$15.00 (single) and \$20.00 for a two-member household. The membership year begins in September and members will receive four issues of our Tree Talk publication per membership year. A single issue of Tree Talk is \$4.00.

When requesting information from our society, PLEASE INCLUDE A STAMPED SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.

When a member has a change of address, it is important to submit the new address as soon as possible.

Queries are published free of charge for members or non-members, as space allows. Please limit your query to 50 to 75 words and include as many dates as possible. If the exact dates are not known, give approximate dates.

Material to be considered for publication in Tree Talk is welcome and we request it concern Cherokee County and/or surrounding counties, especially those that were formed from the original Nacogdoches County. Copyrighted material must be accompanied by written permission to reprint from the copyright holder. All material will be considered by the editor and published at his/her discretion when space permits. The preferred format for submission is on a flash drive, CD-ROM or by e-mail in plain text Windows compatible without special formatting. Photos up to 8" by 10" can be submitted, but will not be returned. Photos and drawings may also be submitted on flash drive, CD-ROM or by e-mail in the GIF, TIF, BMP and JPEG formats. We recommend that information on living persons NOT be detailed to protect their privacy. Cherokee County Genealogical Society accepts no responsibility for the accuracy for material submitted.

A membership application will be in the back of each issue of Tree Talk.

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• TREE TALK •

Volume 39 Issue 3

Spring 2014

Table of Contents

Editor's Letter	74
The Enduring Legacy of Mary Moore Dickson Long by Dr. Deborah L. Burkett	75
Proposed amendment to the By-Laws of Cherokee County Genealogical Society	78
Jacksonville Daily Progress Obituary Index, 1984-2013	79
Family History Fair	80
The Germanna Colony of Virginia by Carolyn Reeves Ericson	86
Genealogical Research in Western Europe by David Schlochler	98
Alto Families-Pictures, Papers, etc. in Stella Hill Memorial Library	103
Publications available through CHEROKEE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY	105
Order Form	107
Membership Application	108

Visit our Internet site at:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txcherok/>



Editor's Letter

We have published a new book **Jacksonville Daily Progress Obituary Index 1984-2013** compiled by staff of Jacksonville Public Library edited by Gordon Bennett. An alphabetical listing of 18,103 obituaries from the Jacksonville Daily Progress, Jacksonville, Texas. \$8.00

Jacksonville Daily Progress Obituary Index 1984-2013 (and the other books we publish) can now be ordered online at: <http://mkt.com/cherokee-county-genealogical-society>

The Family History Fair was a success. I believe that all who attended were entertained and informed. Thanks to the speakers, exhibitors, Vivian Cates, Rev. Barbara Huggins, and all the others who helped. Several speakers have allowed us to publish their speeches. They begin on page 86.

Stella Hill Memorial Library, 200 W. San Antonio Street ,P.O. Box 98, Alto, Texas 75925, (936) 858-4343 altolib@consolidated.net is a little gem of a library. Under the leadership of Virginia Singletary, Library Director, Serena Keech has reexamined their collection of genealogical and historical material and has made a finding aid. Included in the information are: Books and Booklets, Cemetery Information, Churches, Civic City Government, Colleges, Family Histories, Family Information, Genealogical Aids and Resources, Books of Genealogical Resources, General History and Information, Alto Families, General Texas History, Archeological Texas Finds, Historical Journals and Publications, Historical Maps, Military, Miscellaneous Items, Nacogdoches County, Obits and Memorial Cards, Oral Interviews, Organizations, Alto High School, Other Alto Schools, Study Club, and Under Texas Skies.

One important find was a more complete **M.J. Hogan Register of Funerals**. Many years ago, Ogreta Huttash had found part of this records and the Society had published the part from 1914 through part of 1919. The Stella Hill Memorial Library record continues to March 8, 1951.

Stella Hill Memorial Library has furnished a copy of these records and we begin publishing them on page 103.

Gordon Bennett
Editor

The Enduring Legacy of Mary Moore Dickson Long

By Dr. Deborah L. Burkett

My ancestor, Mary Moore Dickson Long, was my paternal 4 great grandmother, and she must have been something! Born, October 13, 1797, in Lincoln County, North Carolina into a prominent family, Mary was reared and later married in Davidson County, Tennessee. She died in Tyler, Texas. The saga of her life between those two points—her birth and death-- is a quite a story, one worth telling.

She was the daughter of James Dickson and Agnes Nancy Moore. Her father, James Dickson, of North Carolina moved the family to Davidson County, Tennessee, "at an early day when Davidson County embraced a large portion of middle Tennessee. On the organization of Bedford County he became its first county judge and was serving as its presiding officer at the date of his death."

On April 6, 1815, Mary married Benjamin Long—Benjamin was born May 22, 1788, in Virginia. There would be six children: James Dickson Long (my direct ancestor- he's my 3rd great grandfather), Richard Brown Long, Margaret Isabella Long, William Thomas Long, Sarah Adeline Dickson Long and Nancy Jane Long.

Mary's husband, Benjamin, served in the War of 1812—at the Battle of New Orleans under General Andrew Jackson—where he was wounded. Also during the War of 1812, Benjamin served at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, he fought alongside Sam Houston. His father, Richard Long (1758-1848), served in the American Revolutionary War. Mary Moore Dickson Long's paternal grandfather was a General in The Revolutionary War.

One can only image what conversations Mary was privy to. Talk of Revolution, Patriotism, Duty to a new Country...All these attributes were ingrained in her—ready to be summoned when she needed them most. Seemly everyone she was close to "answered the call"—a call that required courage and resolve—resulting in decisive action—when her husband died and a new life in the West beckoned--Mary answered that call utilizing those same attributes she had witness in her family. She made the trek West in a covered wagon with her younger children. As I said she must have been something!

Some of the details surrounding the move west are: Sometime between February and October 1837, her husband, Benjamin A. Long died of wounds suffered in the War of



The Enduring Legacy of Mary Moore Dickson Long

1812; she immigrated to Nacogdoches County, Republic of Texas. As I said Benjamin served in the war of 1812, he was at New Orleans and was captured on December 23, preceding the decisive battle of January 8. He served with Captain Ephraim G. Dickson, his brother-in-law. Another family member of Mary's—a brother was also a soldier.

Benjamin Long was fond of military life and prominent in local military circles. When the old State militia was an institution of the South and West he took an active interest in it and always bore a conspicuous part on "muster days". On one occasion he was the commanding officer at a county drill, and "under the excitement and heat of the day he overtaxed himself and died November 6, 1825, being then in his fortieth year". So Mary was left a widow—it was at this point she traveled to the Republic of Texas in a wagon along with her younger children. They arrived in Nacogdoches about 1836. While securing a land grant from the Mexican government, Mary and the children lived with her cousin, James P. Henderson, who later became the first governor of the state of Texas.

About the same time, Margaret and her husband, Ephraim Eakin moved to Texas with their newborn daughter, Mary Elizabeth. All of these immigrants made their home in Nacogdoches County. Several land deals were made involving Mary Long and James Dickson Long of Marshall County, Tennessee, and Margaret and Ephraim of Nacogdoches County during 1838-1839. One of Mary's sons, Richard B. Long, acted as attorney.

In June of 1838, Mary Long qualified for a Second Class Headright (conditional certificate # 53). Three years later the unconditional certificate # 122 was also granted. From the late 1830s to 1851, several of Mary's daughters and sons married in Nacogdoches County. For example, on October 20, 1842, Nancy Jane Long married William Josiah Smith in Nacogdoches County. This is the connection to the Smiths who are buried in Smith Cemetery. By 1860, Mary Long and the William J. Smith family lived in Smith County, south of Tyler—only in separate households—where Brookshire's FRESH Grocery Store is today.

They settled on land that Mary had acquired as a land grant.—making two land grants in her name...

One of her sons, Richard B. Long was elected sheriff of Smith County in 1854—and served for 3 years at which time he was appointed district clerk. He served as district clerk until the outbreak of the Civil War. He left his position to serve with honor and distinction. Later he became Postmaster of Smith County.

I'm fortunate to have images pertinent to Mary's story. One is of Mary Moore Dickson Long; this photo is courtesy of Robert Long (currently of Oklahoma). I found Robert via a DNA website (that's another story). I also took photographs of the Texas Historical

The Enduring Legacy of Mary Moore Dickson Long



Marker which was erected at the Smith Cemetery in 2004 and of Mary's grave. On Memorial Day 2012, I placed flowers between the original marker and the replacement stone . Much credit for discovering and preserving the cemetery, then applying for the marker goes to Bettye Baty and her family of Tyler. The marker credits Mary "Polly" Moore Dickson Long for the land and cites her pioneer efforts. Mary is buried in the Smith Cemetery, located off the Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler, near FRESH Grocery store.

Note: Deborah Burkett has conducted additional research on her relatives who migrated to Texas from Tennessee and is currently working with Gordon Bennett on the topic, "From Tennessee to Texas" and will share this information at a future date.

Proposed Amendment o the By-Laws of Cherokee County Genealogical Society

Background: The current dues of the Cherokee County Genealogical Society are set in ARTICLE-IV-DUES Section-1 of the by-laws of the Society, .as follows: "Membership dues shall be \$15.00 for each single membership or \$20.00 for 2 (two) memberships in the same household." The By-Laws of the Society were last amended as of March 16, 2006.

The dues are insufficient to pay for the ongoing costs of operation of the Society. Helen Marable, Treasurer has calculated that the cost of printing and mailing TREE TALK for one year is currently \$1,541.92. We currently have 61 Individual Members paying \$15 per year and 13 Couples paying \$20 for a total of \$1,175.00. This means that additional income of at least \$366.92 is needed just to print TREE TALK. The Society also has expenses for Office Supplies each year.

ARTICLE - XI - BY-LAWS**Section-1**

These By-Laws may be reviewed and/or revised by a 2/3 vote of the membership at a regular meeting. Out of town members and members unable to attend will be provided an absentee ballot through "TREE TALK". The ballot will specify when the absentee ballot must be received in order to be counted at the time an amendment to the By-Laws may be presented.

Section-2

Written notice of any proposed revision and/or amendment shall be published in "TREE TALK" a minimum of 4 weeks prior to the meeting at which it shall be submitted for vote.

At the regular meeting on April 14, 2014 the membership of the Society voted to amend the by-Laws of the society in ARTICLE-IV-DUES Section-1 as follows: Membership dues shall be \$20.00 for each single membership or \$25.00 for 2 (two) memberships in the same household.

The Meeting to Change the By-Laws is set aa 5 P.M. June 9, 2014 (the Second Monday of the month). The official Ballot to change the By-Laws is enclosed with this issue of TREE TALK. The Absentee Ballot must be received at our Post Office Box or in Person by the President by Noon on June 8, 2014 to be counted.

The Jacksonville Daily Progress Obituary Index, 1984-2013

The *Jacksonville Daily Progress Obituary Index, 1984-2013* was a collaborative effort that took almost thirty years to complete.

During this time period, librarians and volunteers at the Jacksonville Public Library clipped, copied, entered and printed monthly indexes to obituaries that appeared daily in the *Jacksonville Daily Progress*. Over the years, these were bound in-house for patron use.

As the books began to fall apart from age and use, it became increasingly difficult to replace missing pages, etc., due to changing technology and general wear and tear on the various floppy disks, etc., used to archive the records. In 2013, a decision was made to take the existing books and compile them all into one master index that could be both printed and offered for Internet download to assist anyone researching family history during this time period.

Please note that this index is just that: an index. It contains only the names of individuals and the date that their obituary appeared in the *Progress*. Full obituaries can be obtained from the original newspaper (if available) or from the microfilm copy for a small fee.

If both a death notice and an obituary for an individual appeared in the newspaper on different dates, the date of the obituary is used.

While every attempt has been made to verify spellings of names and the dates that the obituaries appeared, human error is still possible. If you should notice any problems, feel free to contact the Jacksonville Public Library at webmaster@jacksonvillelibrary.com with corrections. Any corrections received will be verified, and the entry will be updated in the downloadable index immediately; corrections to print editions will be made as deemed necessary.

David Emprimo
Assistant Librarian

Thanks to the Jacksonville Public library Staff for compiling this information. We are honored to publish this data.

Gordon Bennett
President and Editor
Cherokee County Genealogical Society

Jacksonville Daily Progress Obituary Index, 1984-2013 is available for sale and can be ordered from the order form on page 107 or online at: <http://mkt.com/cherokee-county-genealogical-society>

Family History Fair

The Cherokee County Genealogical Society voted at our December 2013 meeting to have a workshop as a fund raiser. Vivian Cates was chair of the committee, Barbara Huggins and Gordon Bennett were to assist. The First United Methodist Church schedule was consulted and March 29, 2014 was selected as the date.

In January 2014 the price for the event was announced as \$30 per person with a reduced rate of \$10 per person for members of the Cherokee County Genealogical Society, exhibitors and members of the East Texas Historical Association .

By February 10th, Vivian was able to announce that the East Texas Historical Association (ETHA) would sponsor the event and that the Director of ETHA, Dr. Scott Sosebee would be the keynote speaker. Carol Taylor of Greenville would have a series of talks about Civil War Research. Christi Warkins would speak about DNA in genealogy research. Linda Reynolds of the East Texas Research Center will provide an exhibit and speaker, the Texas State Railroad will have an exhibit and speaker and Friends of the Caddo mounds will have an exhibit.

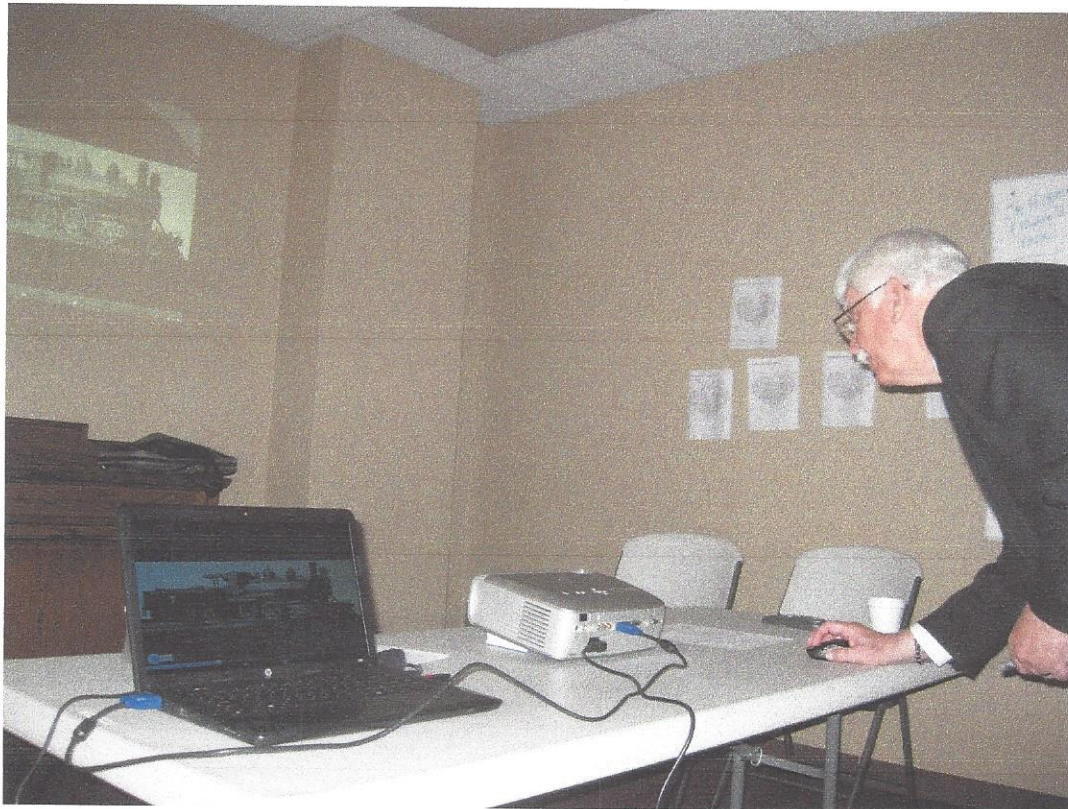
Gordon Bennett began making a mailing list from people who had corresponded with the Society over the last 5 years. Deborah Burkett added names of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) and the Wednesday Study Club. Gordon made a brochure that was mailed to about 300 people.

At the March 2014 meeting, various members took 100 brochures to be placed in the local communities of Alto, Jacksonville, Wells, and Rusk. Since the Family History Fair was a fund raising event, Gordon began printing books to fill the gaps in inventory. Rev. Barbara Huggins announced that the Missions Go! Team of the First United Methodist Church would serve the lunch. David Schlochler and Kaye Slover were added as speakers. Winnie Graham of Huntington would have a display to sell her book

Waller Hall in the First United Methodist Church was a buzz of activity Friday afternoon, March 28th as final preparations were being made. Deborah Burkett was first to arrive with Shelley Cleaver of the Cherokee County Historical Commission to set up the displays for Deborah's Quilt book, DAR, UDC, and Caddo Mounds State Historical Site. Joe Daniels brought his truck to Gordon's house to pick up the books, display cases, computer and printer, etc. Barbara Huggins was making preparations for the lunch on Saturday. Helen Marable arrived at 3 p.m. to make sure the registration table was ready. Joe loaded the books in the display cases.

John Garbutt of the Texas State Railroad was the first speaker and exhibitor to arrive on Saturday morning. He began setting up his equipment for his talk in one of the classrooms.

Family History Fair



Elizabeth McCutchen shows a visitor the Cherokee County Historical Commission display.

Family History Fair
SCHEDULE

9 a.m.

Dr. Scott Sosebee, Associate Professor of History at Stephen F. Austin State University, and the director of the East Texas Historical Association. **“History and Genealogy and how they go together “**

10 a.m.

Carol Taylor **“During the War: Records Created 1861-1865”**

Christi Watkins, Chief Clinical Officer, Palestine Regional Medical Center **“Are You Related to Royalty ??”**

John Garbutt, Texas State Railroad’s Special Projects Administrator **“History of the Texas State Railroad”**

11 a.m.

Carol Taylor **“When the War was Over”**

Christi Watkins **“Skeletons in the Closet ”**

David Schochler, Diboll, TX **“Genealogical research in Western Europe”**

12 p.m.

Lunch served in Waller Hall the First United Methodist Church.

1 p.m.

Carol Taylor **“Women, Children and Other Civilians“**

Carolyn Ericson, Ericson Books, Nacogdoches, Texas, www.ericsonbooks.com, **“The Germananna Colony of Virginia“**

David Schochler, **“So, your gg Grandfather was born in the Sundgau! Now what?”**

2 p.m.

Carol Taylor **“Southern Claims Commission Papers“**

Linda Reynolds, East Texas Research Center, Nacogdoches, TX, **“Records Preservation“**

Kaye Slover, Nacogdoches, Texas. **“Cherokee County Cemeteries”**

Family History Fair



Author and exhibitor Deborah Burkett admires author Winnie Graham's book.



Keynote Speaker Dr. Scott Sosebee and featured speaker Carol Taylor inspect Deborah Burkett's quilt exhibit.

Family History Fair



Carol Taylor and Vivian Cates admire the Moses M. Buckner Chapter 2442 United Daughters of the Confederacy Exhibit.

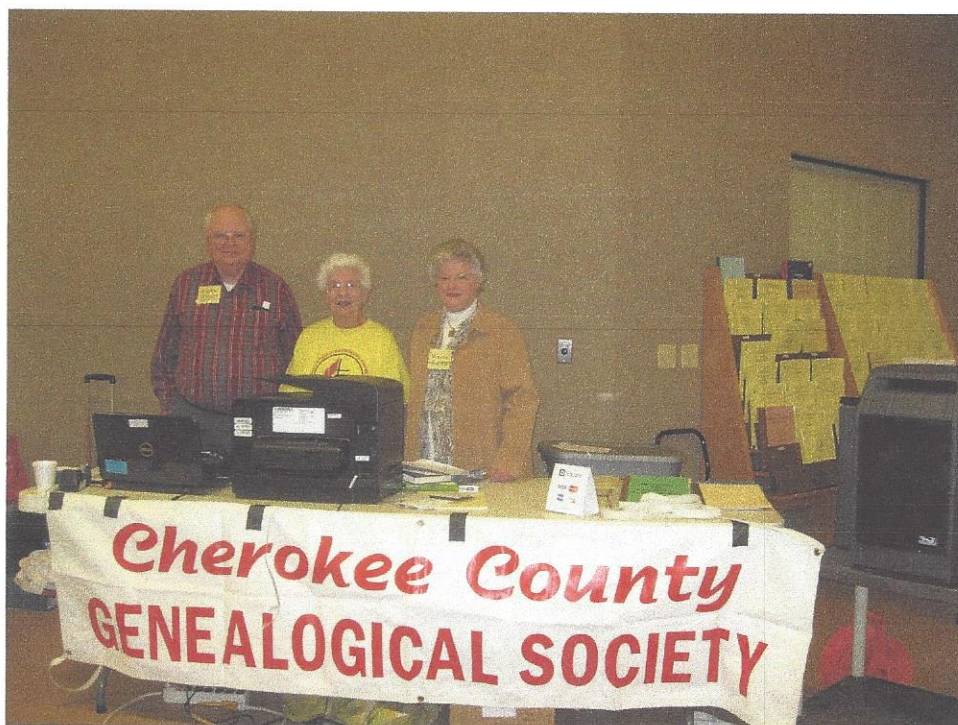


Cecil and Fran Miles from Weches, Texas are visited by Mary Marsh.

Family



Keynote Speaker Dr. Scott Sosebee address the crowd.



Family History Fair Committee Gordon Bennett, Rev. Barbara hughhins amd Vivian Cates at the Cherokee County Genealogical Society Booth.

THE GERMANNA COLONY OF VIRGINIA

By Carolyn Reeves Ericson

A few years ago, I had never heard of the Germanna Colony of Virginia. Many of us do not realize that we have German ancestors. If your family has been in the United States for several generations, you probably have one or more Germans in your background.

I learned the Germanna Colony was instrumental in developing the mining industry in America, and helping greatly during the American Revolution. Many familiar names such as Carpenter, Gerber, Rector, Baumgartner, Wilhoit, Miller, Schmidt and Fleischman are directly connected to these first German immigrants.

Governor Spotswood was appointed Lieutenant Governor of Virginia in 1710 where he served until 1722. He was the first who fully appreciated the value of the western territory. At Germanna, Lt. Governor Alexander Spotswood established the first seat of government for Spotsylvania County, consisting of a court house, jail, stocks and pillory, and a church. He added quarters for himself and his employees. In order to retain title to his lands, he needed settlers to help him produce iron. This area of Piedmont Virginia, thus, became the first sector of industrialization in Virginia.

There were three groups German colonists who came to Virginia during the administration of Governor Spotswood, and they settled at or near the town of Germanna, in Culpeper County. The first colony consisted of 12 families numbering 42 persons, as shown by an order of the Virginia Council passed April 28, 1714. They were the first permanent settlers in what is now Orange County.

All these first colonists belonged to the German Reformed Church, the great German branch of the Presbyterian family of churches. At Germanna, they organized the first congregation of the German Reformed Church in the United States. The chief causes of the immigration of this colony to America was famine & religious persecution.

Queen Ann, of England, issued a proclamation in 1708 inviting the persecuted Germans to come to England for protection. The immigrants pitched their tents a small distance from London where they were supported at public expense until they could be shipped off to Ireland or the Colonies. Christopher de Graffenreid and Lewis Michell attempted to mend their fortunes by purchasing land in some of the Colonies. The Lord Proprietors of Carolina had agreed to



THE GERMANNA COLONY OF VIRGINIA

layoff ten thousand acres of land for them in one body between Neuse and Cape Fear. DeGraffenreid made the purchase and was created a Baron. This land company then needed tenants and the poor Palatines presented themselves as an object of speculation. Commissioners had been appointed by the Queen to collect and receive money for use of the Palatines and to provide them with settlements. DeGraffenreid and Michell contracted with those commissioners that they would transport to North Carolina 650 of the Palatines, about 100 families .

Several years prior to 1714 Governor Spotswood had discovered deposits of iron ore on the large tracts of land where Germanna was afterwards located in Spotsylvania County. He spent much time arranging his plans to work this mine, getting the Queen's permission and having the royal share determined . After these matters were adjusted he needed iron miners and iron workers, to mine the ore, build furnaces, and run them. There were none in Virginia. When the Baron DeGraffenreid was in Virginia after his escape from a North Carolina Indian massacre, he arranged with Spotswood to get miners for him from Germany, and with this in view de Graffenreid wrote to miners with whom he was acquainted in Germany and arranged for their coming to Virginia. The colony was gathered from Siegen in Westphalia. This is mining country and at Musen is one of the most celebrated iron mines in Germany. DeGraffenreid persuaded 14 individuals with families totaling 42 persons to come to Virginia. The first German Colony arrived in Virginia at Tappahannock in the spring of 1714, came up the Rappahannock River, and settled 20 miles west of Fredericksburg at a location that would be called Fort Gernanna.

Governor Spotswood employed these Germans in his iron mines near Germanna and at odd times they also did a little farming. Their lot was a sad and bitter one at Germanna. The Colony of Virginia passed a law saying: "Whereas certain German protestants, to the number of 42 persons or thereabouts, have been settled above the falls of the River Rappahannock, on the southern branch of the said river, called Rapidan, at a place named Germanna, in the County of Essex, and have there begun to build and make improvements for their cohabitation, to the great advantage of this colony and the security of the frontiers in those parts from the intrusions of the Indians, it is enacted that they shall be free from the payment of all public and county levies for seven years, as should be any other German Protestants who might settle there, always providing, however, that they did not leave Gennanna and settle elsewhere" (Acts of Assembly passed in the Colony of Virginia from 1662 to 1715, printed at London in 1727)

A Spotswood manuscript reveals the following paragraph in a letter to the Commissioners of Trade in England, dated May 1714. He wrote: "I continue to settle our tributary Indians, and in order to supply that part which was to have been covered by the Tuscarora Indians, I have placed there a number of Protestant Germans, built them a fort, furnished it with two pieces of cannon and some ammunition, which will awe the straggling parties of Northern Indians and be a good barrier to all that part of the country.

The group moved from Germanna in 1721 and settled on Licking Run, about eight miles south of Warrenton near present Midland Station, where they first acquired lands. The locality was then in Stafford County, later Prince William, and now Fauquier County. A 1720 map of the Germanna area shows the location and called it "Douchertown." They later named the new

THE GERMANNA COLONY OF VIRGINIA

home Germantown. An old cemetery, located on private property, is believed to have the graves of some families of the Germantown settlement and the First Germanna Colony of 1714.

The names of these first settlers were: Jacob Holtzclaw, wife Margaret, sons John and Henry; John Kemper, wife Alice Kathrina; John Joseph Martin, wife Maria Kathrina; John Spillman, wife Mary; Herman Fishback, wife Kathrina; John Henry Hoffman, wife Kathrina; Joseph Coons, wife Kathrina, son John Annalis, daughter Kathrina; John Fishback, wife Agnes; Jacob Rector, wife Elizabeth, son John; Melchior Brumback, wife Elizabeth; Tillman Weaver, mother Ann Weaver, Peter Hitt, wife Elizabeth. In 1714, not all of the men named above were married. For example, John Hoffman and Anna Catherine Haeger were not married until November 7, 1721, as shown by John Hoffman's Bible record. Three additional settlers that were omitted from the list are Reverend John Henry Hager, John Kemper, and Harman Utterback.

The second colony, which came in 1717, was entirely distinct from the first. Those colonists had been invited by the Honorable William Penn, Esquire, Proprietor of the Province of Pennsylvania, to settle in his province. They journeyed to London and there agreed with a Captain Scott to land them and their families in Pennsylvania. After the colonists were on board ship ready to sail for America, Captain Scott was imprisoned in London for debt. While the captain languished in prison, the passengers consumed a great deal of the provisions which had been purchased for their trip to the colonies. When the Captain was finally released from prison, he had no money to purchase new supplies. Through necessity the ship left for America poorly provisioned and many of the passengers died on the voyage to America. Whether the ship was blown off course by a storm or was deliberately taken to Virginia instead of Pennsylvania is unknown. The Germans landed at Tappahannock and a dispute arose between them and the Captain of the ship in which they sailed. He contended they had not paid enough for their passage to America, The Captain refused to deliver their effects until his demand was satisfied. Governor Spotswood, being present, proposed that if the Germans would settle on his land and remain long enough to instruct some of his young men in mechanical trades, he would pay the bill. They consented and due to a language barrier they did not realize that they had indentured themselves for seven years to pay again for their passage.

This second colony was composed chiefly of Lutherans. Twenty families with about 80 people survived the voyage. Some of the familiar names which were found in this second colony are: Broyles, Zimmerman, Snyder, Smith, Cook, Carpenter, Holt, Clore, Ballenger, Mayer, and Fleishman.

So much has been documented and written about the First Colony and its ancestry, but a great deal of mystery surrounds the establishment of a second colony in 1717. Few historical records exist to document an immigrant's arrival in Colonial Virginia. Records located in Wurttemberg and Baden, Germany have helped solve some of the mysteries surrounding the Second Colony.

The Second Colony, comprised of Lutherans from the Alsace and Palatinate regions, left Germany on 12 July 1717 en route to Pennsylvania. The Captain took his passengers to Virginia where he sold them as indentured servants as we discussed previously . While Spotswood may have recognized the injustice done these immigrants, he profited from the situation to extract eight years of indentured labor from them. They were not released until 1725, a year longer

THE GERMANNA COLONY OF VIRGINIA

than the customary seven. Spotswood sued nineteen of them in 1723 and 1724 to force them into their extended service. German records offering facts about Second Colony immigrant families have dispelled many misconceptions held by earlier researchers. Most of them assumed that the colonists sued by Governor Spotswood in 1723 and 1724 represented all of the 1717 immigrants. Recent discoveries, however, clearly indicate that not all who came in 1717 were party to the lawsuit. It may have been that only those who adamantly refused to continue their indenture were enjoined in the suit. They may have been others who wanted to avoid conflict with the powerful governor and gave in to his demands .

Locating the immigrant families in German parish registers has allowed, for the first time, a more complete reconstruction of the Second Germanna Colony of 1717. The revised list of the constituency of the 1717 colony shows that at least 138 people left Germany at the time, so perhaps as many as fifty people perished, (many of starvation), most of them children. In 1719, a third colony, also mostly Lutherans, consisting of forty families, came to Virginia and settled in the vicinity of Germanna. Comparatively little is known of the antecedent history of this group of Germans .

The importation records and suits mentioned show that there were at least 25 men who belonged to the 1717 colony. There were possibly several more. The petitioners stated that they desired Col. Spotswood to give them a copy of the covenant made with them when they arrived in Virginia, but he refused and the justices of Spotsylvania refused to aid them. Governor Spotswood arrested about 25 of them without giving a reason and they asked if it is proper to petition to the House of Burgesses to appoint someone to plead for them. This petition is undated, but I guess it might have been some time in 1723.

Another group arrived at Germanna in 1719 with approximately forty families. On 20 February 1719, the 15,000 acre mine tract was patented to Spotswood's friend, Robert Beverly. Soon Spotswood added this land holding to his Germanna tract. On April 22, 1720, a tract of 1920 acres in the fork of the Rappahannock River across the Rapidan from Germanna was conveyed to Spotswood from Robert Beverly. The Colonists of 1717 and 1719 remained in the Gennanna neighborhood until 1725 or 1726 when they acquired land in Madison County. Many of these names are prominent in Madison and the surrounding counties today.

The location of the Germanna colony in 1714 was on a peninsula on the south side of the Rapidan River, which is the southern branch of the Rappahannock, nine miles above its confluence with the northern branch and 13 miles above the site of Governor Spotswood's iron furnace. The Germanna peninsula, now near the northeastern end of Orange County, Virginia is formed by a large loop, almost a horseshoe bend, of the Rapidan, which is here a stream about 50 or 60 yards in width. It is really the main stream of the Rappahannock. It is still surrounded on the south and west, for the most part, by forests. We may assume that the peninsula was originally all heavily timbered, as much of it still is, with oak, hickory, pine, poplar, and other native trees, and that a clearing had to be made for the original settlement. It was probably from the trees cut down in making the clearing that logs were obtained for building the cabins and the blockhouse and for erecting the five-sided palisade that enclosed the settlement.

THE GERMANNA COLONY OF VIRGINIA

The area within the loop of the river was no doubt selected as the place for settlement because the encircling stream was regarded as affording some protection against the Indians, who might have been expected to approach from the north. So far as we have record, there were no such attacks.

Since Alexander Spotswood was Governor of Virginia at the time Spotsylvania County was created, and he owned Germanna, this was the location he selected for the seat of Spotsylvania County government. The chosen site was on a bluff overlooking the Rapidan River, north of the Germanna village and northeast of the Germanna Ford on the Rapidan River. Spotswood built his compound to serve as a personal home and as a seat of government for the new county. The Clerk of the Court used a room in the Spotswood home as an office. When the first session of court for Spotsylvania County met at Germanna on August 1, 1722, the Spotswood residence had not been built. Thus, the "large single room building" could have been the first Courthouse. At the time, Lt. Governor Alexander Spotswood's home was in the Governor's Palace in Williamsburg, Virginia.

John Finlason was granted the first license to operate a tavern in Spotsylvania County on 6 November 1722. He was later authorized to provide lodging and food for the justices, and to care for their horses while court was in session. This was probably the first business establishment at Germanna not owned by Spotswood.

The first German Reformed Church in America was established at Germanna by the 1714 Colonists and their minister, Reverend John Henry Hager. The group used a blockhouse for their religious services. They held prayer services once a day and had two services on Sunday.

From what is known of Germanna's history, it seems evident that it was for a time a place of considerable importance. From the year 1721, when Spotsylvania County was organized, until 1732 or thereabouts, when the courts were moved to Fredericksburg, Germanna was the county-seat of Spotsylvania County.

The meetings of the court, from month to month, or occasionally at two-month intervals necessitated the presence there of the county justices and other county officials--clerk, sheriff, surveyor, attorneys, as well as numerous citizens who had deeds to record, wills to probate, and disputes to settle. The county at that time included a large area, and it is reasonable to assume that the court-day crowds were numbered in the hundreds. There is evidence that Germanna continued as a place of settlement and industrial activity for a number of years after the courts were moved to Fredericksburg. For a long time there was a grist mill beside the river, just above the bridge.

In April 1723, a petition for a ferry at Germanna was approved. In April 1723, a number of headright certificates were granted including those of Jacob Holtzclaw, John Camper [Kemper], and John Joseph Martin, of the 1714 Germanna Colony; Frederick Cobbler of the 1717 Germanna Colony, and Meredith Holms, Godfrey Pidge, John Bell, Thomas Jackman, and John B. Cowers of the 1719 group.

THE GERMANNA COLONY OF VIRGINIA

At the April 1724 court session, Spotswood 'surrendered' the courthouse, prison, pillory, and stocks to the county. He stated the courthouse was completed except for some plastering over the justices bench, which could not be done in cold weather. He offered the court the room over the prison for the use of the justices or jury. It was apparent the public buildings and the home of Spotswood were very close together, and that some of the facilities served a dual role.

The pre-Revolutionary contributions of the German colonists could be categorized as of four types: first, these pioneers took on the task of settling the land and pushing back the frontiers. Through the German families who came to Germanna the cutting edge of the western movement of America was provided. They were the frontiersmen, rugged individualistic Americans who would become legend and history. They cut the roads and trails leading westward across the Alleghanies. They carved homesteads out of the wilderness and they would presently establish farms dotting the countryside.

Secondly, the German settlers became identified with trade, commerce and culture. These people frequently were the artisans of early America; indeed Germanna Colonists were brought here because of their skill in working with iron. They became shopkeepers, bakers, and small manufacturers. Consequently, they were hard hit by the discriminatory Townshend Acts adopted by the English Parliament in 1767, which had as their purpose the perpetuation of the monopoly in economic development and trade weighted in favor of Great Britain, seeking to use the colonies as source of raw materials and as market for goods manufactured in England. The Townshend Acts, which inflamed the colonies, no doubt raised the ire of the German settlers.

The third prewar contribution of the Germanna Colonists was that of establishing public opinion in support of the Revolutionary cause. This was a vital factor and a necessary part of this successful American effort. History tells us that about the time of the American Revolution there were approximately 225,000 German settlers in the thirteen colonies, which number represented about 1/12 of the total population. Of this number the colony of Virginia had 25,000 and was second in size to the colony of Pennsylvania. New York also had about 25,000.

At the outbreak of the Revolution public opinion in America was divided into three relatively equal groups. Of the American population of approximately 2 1/2 million, approximately 1/3 were loyalists and supported the Crown; 1/3 were patriots and supported causes of the colonists; the remaining 1/3 of the American population had no opinion, and were simply bystanders, not casting their allegiance with either the loyalists or the patriots. However, participation of the German settlers indicated that in relation to their number, their support of the Patriots' cause was far greater than the overall one-third proportion that was mentioned.

The fourth prewar contribution was military experience. Perhaps one of the most important contributions was the frontier and military background of the German men. They were the true veterans of the frontier and of the frontier wars. They swelled the ranks of soldiers and noncommissioned and junior-grade officers of the militia. Not only had they fought in a number of wars against Indians to make them wise in the ways of wilderness warfare, but they had fought in King George's War and later, had fought in the French and Indian War. They had served with

THE GERMANNA COLONY OF VIRGINIA

Braddock in his terrible defeat, and it was undoubtedly their advice to the British soldiers that went unheeded when they were faced with the unconventional tactics of the French and Indian troops.

From the Germanna colony came men for Washington's army. This service points up the second major contribution of the Germanna colonists to the Revolution. Their wartime service would be divided into what might be termed both conventional and unconventional warfare. Men from the Germanna colonies served in all of the major campaigns in which the Patriot army became involved. Many of them were riflemen in the famous Morgan's Rifles who made the march from the Valley of Virginia to Boston, a distance of some 600 miles, in the early days of the war, and astonished both the British and the Americans with the speed with which they moved over that 600 miles. They were at Trenton and Saratoga and Brandywine to name only a few battles.

The Virginia militia at Yorktown was commanded by a German officer who had settled at Fredericksburg. In fact, history reports that, at Yorktown there were Hessians in the British ranks and German units opposed German units with commands given on both sides in German. Names from the Germanna colony are legion on the rosters of the Culpeper minutemen and the militia companies from this area.

In the early days of the war, because of certain suspicions cast on his bodyguard, General Washington selected an all-German bodyguard that would stay with him through the entire war; and his cavalry troop, which accompanied him through the war and escorted him to Mount Vernon at the close of the War, was made up almost wholly of German cavalrymen,

Another aspect of military service in which the Germanna settlers played a great part was the field of unconventional warfare. The proclamation of 1763 of King George, closing the western lands of the Appalachia to settlement that was one of the grievances of the war hit most acutely the German settler as he moved west and caused him to resent the policies of the Crown. This frontier settlement of the German colonists reaped rich dividends during the conflict stage of the Revolution. It centered around the Hessian soldiers who formed a substantial part of the British army under a contract arrangement between Great Britain and the German princes who leased to the British whole units of Hessian soldiers.

England turned to the German princes because they needed manpower, and it is one of the great twists of fate in foreign policy that would lead to an unexpected reversal for England. The bringing of the Hessian soldier to America would create one of the great causes of the Revolution and one of the complaints cited in the Declaration, in as much as the Continental Congress objected to the hiring of foreign mercenaries by the Crown. I think that the landing of Hessians to subjugate colonists crystallized American opinion.

Once the Hessians came to America, American leaders decided upon a defection-plan to try to cause them to desert. Considerable effort went into these defection plans. Several aspects of these plans are worthy of some comment. The first of these was a desertion offer printed in

THE GERMANNA COLONY OF VIRGINIA

German and circulated as leaflets among Hessian soldiers, offering land to those who would desert. The basic offer of land was generally 50 or 100 acres and would increase in quantity with the rank of the individual who deserted.

One method, reported to have been used to distribute these desertion offers, was to wrap tobacco in the desertion leaflet which was stamped on the back with the familiar stamp known as the tobacco stamp then in use in the Colonies. These packets of tobacco were distributed in the Hessian camps and, no doubt, the desertion offers were quickly concealed when the packets were unwrapped.

Secondly, one of the great hoaxes of history was a letter, alleged to have been written by a German Count Von Schamburg to one of his regimental commanders following a battle in which the commander reported the Hessian troops had done quite well and had sustained very very light casualties. The Count was being reimbursed on the basis of those who became casualties either by death or wounding, and the letter takes to task the commander for having suffered so few casualties. One can imagine the demoralizing effect of such a letter once it was circulated in the Hessian ranks. Actually, the letter was a hoax, by one of the master propagandists during the American Revolution, Benjamin Franklin.

The third defection technique was an unplanned one. It may have been the most effective. When the Hessian soldier arrived in America, he was surprised to find in this beautiful land his fellow countrymen living lives that were not only prosperous but fruitful and free. He envied them their farms, their homes, their livestock and liberty. Remembering the oppression of his own land, the lack of it in America probably raised in his own mind the question of why he should be engaged in conflict here against those originally of his country. The fact that he could talk to German settlers in his own tongue and hear from them the advantages and the promise of America had a significant effect. The Hessian soldier was impressed by the kind treatment he received, if he were a prisoner or if he were wounded and found himself being treated in a German home.

The defection programs, whether planned or unplanned, were tremendously successful and may have spelled the difference between victory and defeat.

Historians estimate that about 30,000 Hessian soldiers came America to fight with the British Army, but that only 18,000 returned to Germany. They sustained desertion losses of 20 percent. In other words, six thousand or more deserted the ranks of the British Army. Not only did this great desertion rate undercut the effort of the British Army, but the uncertainty of the loyalty to the British cause of the Hessian must have given pause to the British commanders.

In 1806, William F. Gordon opened a school at Germanna where he taught Latin, spelling, read, writing, English grammar, composition, geography, and arithmetic. The tuition was \$25.00 for those who were taught Latin, and \$20.00 for the other subjects. His mother could accommodate two or three boarders.

The Germanna Colony played a part in the Civil War also. During the fall and winter of 1863-

THE GERMANNA COLONY OF VIRGINIA

64, the armies of the North and South faced each other across the Rapidan River west of Germanna, the Federals on the north side, the Confederates on the South. Clark's Mountain was a point of lookout. At one time, the Yankees crossed the river and there were a series of engagements on Mine Run.

Early in May 1864, Grant's army, which had been collected and equipped near Culpeper during their Winter Encampment of 1864-64, crossed the Germanna Ford to engage in the desperate Battle of the Wilderness, a few miles south from Germanna. Across the neck of the Germanna peninsula, infantry trenches and cannon pits can still be traced. In 1863, the Battle of Chancellorsville had been fought ten miles to the southeast. During this, General Stonewall Jackson was mortally wounded.

Those of us who are descendants of Germanna should seek to focus attention on the contributions that were made by the descendants of Germanna in this crucial period of two hundred years ago.

One thing that it is necessary to be aware of before beginning research in this field is the changing of names through the years. George Utz came over in 1717. As George Woode he had a grant of 196 acres dated September 28, 1728. That name Woode was an attempt to anglicize UTZ is shown by a deed 3 August 1731 in which "George Woods, alias Utz, deeded land to John Huffman, Christopher Barler is also found in the records as Christopher Barlow; Michael Koch is also found as Michael Cook; Fleshman is also found as Fleischman; George Moyer is also found as Mayer or Meyer; Phillip Paulitz is also found as Powlett; Matthias Schmidt is also found as Matthew Smith; Wilhelm Zimmerman is found as William Carpenter; Robert Tanner is found as Robert Gerber; Christopher Uhl is found as Christopher Yowell. You must recognize that one or both names were used in the court records. If you are seeking information on Hans Zimmermann, don't be too surprised to find him listed as John Carpenter in the existing records. The next time you find him he may be using the name John Zimmermann, Many German immigrants anglicized their names for a short time and then changed them back to their old names.

There is a Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, a non-profit organization formed in 1956, which publishes records of these families and helps those who are interested in doing research in this field. There is a reunion each summer in Virginia and all members are invited to come. The annual dues are \$20.00 for one person, \$30.00 for a whole family and a life membership is \$150.00. You may send your dues to The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc., P. O. Box 693, Culpeper, VA 22701-0693. There is an interesting web site which gives a great deal of information on early settlers, the Memorial Foundation, and links to various related web sites.

A number of publications available contain data on the Germanna Colony. Clues to the origins of some of the immigrants are provided in their naturalization in Virginia. The immigrants were naturalized over a twenty year period after their arrival. In 1990, using these clues, John Cerny, Gary J. Zimmerman, and others with the American Genealogical Lending Library published a series of books entitled BEFORE GERMANNA. Each little book contains data from

THE GERMANNA COLONY OF VIRGINIA

Germany pertaining to two or more families which were part of the Germanna colony. German Parish registers were examined, and every effort was made to identify the paternity of the emigrants. The Anglicized version of the name is given -- such as John Broyles -- and then the name as found in Parish Registers -- Johann Breuel. The name is also found as Breyhel/Breiel in Wurtttemberg. Don't be one of those genealogists who says "That is not the way we spell our name!" If you refuse to check variant spellings, you are doomed to failure.

George W. Smith has published two volumes of records from the Lutheran HEBRON CHURCH REGISTER 1750-1825. These records mainly give data on birth and baptisms for the members. These books are extremely valuable because they give exact dates back in the 18th century, when many Virginia registers have been lost or destroyed.

Several volumes are available from the Germanna Foundation. GERMANNNA RECORDS contains cemetery inscriptions, Bible records, court orders, wills and deeds chiefly from Culpeper, Orange, Fauquier, and Madison counties.

GERMANNNA RECORD NO.1 deals with Peter Hitt, John Joseph Martin and Tillman Weaver of the 1714 Colony and their descendants. GERMANNNA RECORD NO.2 contains an account of Germantown, Virginia, including a Germantown map with land of the settlers. GERMANNNA RECORD NO. 3 contains information on John Hoffman, 1714 Germanna Colonist and his descendants. GERMANNNA RECORD NO.4 contains data on John Jacob RECTOR, 1714 Gernanna Colonist and His Descendants. There are many Rector descendants in this area of East Texas who would be interested in this information, GERMANNNA RECORD NO. 5 deals with the ancestry and descendants of the Nassau-Siegen immigrants to Virginia from 1714 to 1750. Accounts of 22 families are included such as HITT, HOLTZCLAW, BUSCH, HUFFMAN, KEMPER, MARTIN, MILLER, RECTOR, SPILMAN, WEAVER, YOUNG and many others. Fortunately, this 584 page book has a complete index which makes it easy to use.

There is a publication dealing with the SECOND GERMANNA COLONY, 1717, and those settlers who arrived at this time. It includes a map of the settlement in Madison County, and lists heads of families and later arrivals.

GERMANNNA RECORD NO. 7 IS GERMANNA, OUTPOST OF ADVENTURE, 1714 -1956. These records deal with the two Germanna colonies of 1714 & 1714, Governor Spotswood's ironworks, the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe, with illustrations.

GERMANNNA RECORD NO. 10 contains data on the families of CLORE, YAGER and UTZ descendants - 1717 colonists. This valuable book contains the first four generations of these three families,

GERMANNNA RECORD NO. 11 contains information on descendants of John CARPENTER and Thomas WAYLAND, pioneers of the second. GERMANNNA RECORD NO.12 contains information on the AYLOR, SNYDER and TANNER families.

THE GERMANNA COLONY OF VIRGINIA

GERMANNA RECORD NO. 13 contains data on BLANKENBAKER, WEAVER and \VILHOIT descendants. GERMANNNA RECORD NO. 14 is the HOLTZCLAW GENEALOGY 1540-1935. This is a reprint of an earlier work published in the 1930s to which a full name index has been added.

The study of the Germanna Colony is fascinating, and much research has already been done on these three groups of immigrants. I would invite you to read and study further on this topic. I think that you would enjoy this study even if you do not have any family in this area.

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I was born in Fort Stockton, Pecos County, Texas, but moved to Lubbock when I was a Junior in High School. I graduated from Lubbock High School and Texas Tech University. I married in 1955 and we moved to Arlington, Tarrant County, Texas where we lived for two years prior to moving to Nacogdoches. We moved to Nacogdoches in 1957 where I have lived ever since.

I was curator of the Stone Fort Museum for nine years on the SFA campus. In 1980 I retired from the museum and began research and writing full time. I have compiled 88 volumes and am working on another. Two of them have over 1500 pages. I have served as chapter registrar in every heritage club in town and have completed hundreds of applications for prospective members.

I served as National Registrar for Order of Descendants of Ancient Planters. This organization requires that prospective members have an ancestor who came to Virginia by 1616 --- four years before the Mayflower.

When my husband would attend national conventions, I went along and working in the libraries. I have worked in Montgomery, Alabama, Atlanta, Georgia, Columbia, South Carolina, Raleigh, North Carolina, Richmond, Virginia, New York City, New York, Chicago, Illinois and Los Angeles, California.

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN WESTERN EUROPE

By David Schochler

INTRO:

1. How many of you are American Indian?
2. How many are Chinese, Vietnamese, or Eastern Indian or Pakistani
3. How many are Polynesian, Japanese or Philippine?

So, that means most of you are descended from European, Mediteranean or Middle Eastern stock.

Since many of us have seen the Ancestry.com sponsored “Who Do You Think You Are?”, let’s talk quickly about the easiest situation. Therefore, if you are of stock from the United Kingdom or British Isles, Ancestry.com or Genealogy.com would be a logical place to start.

At the end of WWII, the LDS or Mormons went into the British Isles and western Europe and filmed every civil and church record they could get access to. Many were battered or water stained, scorched, etc. From the 1950’s, until the last 4-5 years, the records from the British Isles were the more easily accessed and deciphered. Anyone wish to make a guess why? Because the civil records were all in English or Olde English, with some Latin scattered in the church records.

That is why most of the subjects or stars of this show were either English descent; or of African descent, and only traced back to their arrival in America and forward. The ones of English descent were able to trace their families back through church and civil records for 3,4, 5 or more generations, with reasonable success, and a lot of expense.

Starting about 4-5 years ago, Ancestry and Genealogy.com began to acquire volunteers, who were able to index and translate in French, German, Polish, Russian, Italian, etc—Western Europe. Therefore, if you are just starting now, these would be some of the initial tools.

When we began our research in 2000, we had the following lynch pins of info to launch from:

1. An oral tradition that one German speaking 12 year old boy, ran away from home in France, after an epidemic took everyone in his family except him, his mother and his oldest sister. The story had him stowe away on a ship and finally jump ship in Chesapeake Bay, after some 4 years on the high seas. Supposedly, he was the only one from his family to come to this country.
2. We also had 4 written pieces by 3 descendants of my gg grandfather, about their recollections of his stories of his boyhood, coming to America, and his later life in Alabama and East Texas.
3. The burgeoning Internet with a flood of sources, which were still free.

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN WESTERN EUROPE

Our research team began to gather in 2000. My Aunt, Melba Schochler, had retired with her husband, Lowell Schochler, from 33 years on the Brazilian mission field. They lived in Palestine, TX. She promised him to attempt to prove or disprove the following facts:

1. Exactly where the Schochler family had originated.
2. Was Joseph Lawrence Schochler the only one of his family to come to U.S.
3. Was our name actually Schochler or something else.

These three questions became our primary research goals. From close scrutiny of the oral and written tradition, we had concluded that inconsistencies existed with commonly know and recorded history, and there were several long periods of silence in JLS's stories.

We added two members to our research team:

1. Lyn Wilson Berry: we found her posting on an internet bulletin board asking if anyone had info on the "Shockler" family. We would discover that she was the gg grand daughter of the baby sister of JLS, our research subject.
2. Otha Schochler Lee, my second cousin, who possessed the most complete listing of all descendants of JLS, and the most complete copies of the 4 written pieces of our family tradition. In addition, she was a court stenographer, and knew her way around court houses and libraries. She lived in Lufkin, TX.

In this team, Melba was fluent in Portuguese, read Spanish, and could read some in Latin. She was an experienced writer of teaching curriculum materials. Lyn, was fluent in French, and became our translator for many of the letters we wrote to French authorities. She was also our most adept member at exploring various data bases and various internet info sources. She lived in Michigan.

I was the 4th member. I was able to limp along reading German. I had majored in history, and minored in English in college, and spent 33 years in the insurance industry, in policy review and analysis. I lived in north TX, when we began our research, and later moved to northern Idaho for 9 years.

We thought we had a "dream team" and would surely whip the project out in a year or two. In fact, it took us 6 years to finish the research, and another 6 years to write the book, which we published in 2013.

We began several avenues of search. We looked for Schochler's in Europe, with specific attention to Germany and France. We searched through the Deutsches Telefon Buchs and the Francais directories. We found almost no listings of the exact spelling of our current name, but plenty of variations with some similarities. We assumed the family lore might be correct, and everyone but the lone son died in a pandemic. Logically that did not gel unless it had been a

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN WESTERN EUROPE

very small and isolated family to begin with.

About a year into the search we received an email from a cousin in Alabama, who had seen one of our bulletin board postings. In the University of Alabama library in Tuscaloosa, she had found a listing of an immigrant family, who had arrived in Charleston, S.C., on 2 November, 1827, by sailing ship from Le Havre, FR. But the last name was not right, as it was shown as Schoeler(shay-ler) However the first names, other than the youngest, matched first names that repeated in successive generations of our family. Annnnd, the name of the youngest matched that of Lyn Berry's gg grandmother.

For almost a year we chased the Schoeler's all over northern France and Germany. Each time we came to a "brick wall". The traditional lore said our gg granddad had been born in "Hamburg". But he also talked about living near the Rhein River. But, Hamburg was over 200 miles from the nearest part of the Rhein River. However, we discovered there were about 15 Homberg variations down in Eastern France and southwestern Germany. We again systematically reviewed the pattern of how JLS's children and g children were named, and how Lyn Berry's baby sister had named her 10 children, and became convinced that the "Schoeler" family was in fact our family, using a slightly fictitious name upon their entry at Charleston, S.C. (Relate quickly how this was treated in the book)

We read everything we could about Charleston history. We built a timeline chart, using Microsoft Office Excel, and entered every item of possible sightings, and the ages of the Schoelers and their approximate births and marriage dates, and compared it against the traditional lore stories. We began to see similar patterns, with subtle differences in locations between the traditional lore and the Schoeler family.(Explain the mirror image and code word things used in JLS's traditional stories.)

In the fourth year of research, Lyn Berry, the youngest of our researchers, found a note in one of the files from one of her aunts. It said, "Look in the records of the Charleston Orphanage Asylum". We determined that the decendant organization of that entity is the Carolina Youth Development Center, and learned that all of the records of the COA were intact. We contacted them, gave them Lyn's gg grandmother's name, her approximate birth date, and the date her family arrived in Charleston, if in fact they were the Schoeler's. We also gave them a list of all the variations of our name, which we had knowledge of. They mailed to us copies of the commitment papers on two young sisters, Marianne-5 years old (Mary), and Rozinna-3-(Rose) Schoechlin, who had be admitted in 1828, upon the death of their parents in an epidemic. They were indentured out three years later; the older girl, to the husband of an older sister, and the younger to the wife of an older brother. They could only be indentured out to someone who was a citizen of the U.S. We gladly reimbursed the repository of the records for their copy and mail expense.

(German lesson on Schoechlin-Schochlin) We took the info on the two girls, and contacted the reference librarian in the History Room of the Charleston County Public Library. We gave them the surname of the two girls, the date of their admission, and asked if they had any death records for anyone of the same last names, who died in the epidemic beginning in the fall of

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN WESTERN EUROPE

1828. In two weeks we received the death certificates for the father, John Schachlin, the mother, Treisey, and the oldest daughter, Catharine. They had all died in the span of two weeks beginning in the last week of September, 1828. The certs listed the doctor who certified the deaths, and the home towns in eastern FR. Now we knew where we had come from, and what our name had been. Now we could drop the futile search for the Schoeler's and look for the Schochlin's or Schoechlin's.

We renewed our search by several means.

1. Back to the European telefon buch's
2. We Googled the name
3. We searched the IGI(International Genealogical Indexes) on the internet
4. We wrote the depository of Customs and ship boardings & departures out of le Havre, FR. for the Schochlin's boarding the l'Athalie.
5. Mormon Family History Centers for microfilm and digital records of births, marriages and deaths, in Altkirck, Haut Rhin, FR.
6. We also discovered a listing on the internet for a regional genealogical records repository in Guebweiler, France, which covered the area of Altkirck. Our French interpreter, Lyn Berry, wrote them and received comprehensive lists of the info on births, marriages, etc. of our family, in French. These were confirmed by the records of the Mormon History Centers. So, now we had cross-checked info.

Through Lyn Berry, we had an extensive back and forth email conversation with the French officials in Le Havre, who held the records of our family's boarding of l'Athalie on 11 August, 1827, and the ship sailing on the 14th. In this conversation, they indicated that my ggg grandfather held a Swiss passport, and sent us a photocopy of the form containing his signature where he signed his name and they listed him as a Suisse citizen.

We concluded from the IGI listings, that our family had possibly originated in north central Switzerland around the early 1600's, and drifted down the Rhein to an area around Emmendingen, and later after about 2-3 generations, moved back up river to Rheinweiler. We would later confirm this info from another source within Switzerland.

In early 2006, I located 5-6 Schochlin's and their locations in Europe from the internet. One was a high school physics teacher in a German language school in Switzerland. I found the website for his school, and it listed his email address. I emailed Werner Schoechlin, explained who I was, and what little I knew about my family history. In 12 hours he wrote back, agreed with me that we might in fact be distantly related, as his family had also left Switzerland, and lived in Emmendingen for some time, before returning to CH. That began our friendship and correspondence which exists today.

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN WESTERN EUROPE

In Dec., 2006, we signed up for a boat trip on the Rhein River(Christmas on the Rhein) It was to start in Basel, Switzerland, and last 12 days, ending in Amsterdam, Netherlands. There was an option to fly into Basel 3 days early and be on your own before boarding the river boat. We contacted Werner Schochlin, and made arrangements to ride the tilt-train from Basel to Biel, where he had grown up, and now taught. We rode the train through some 80-90K. of most beautiful country, not unlike where we lived in northern Idaho, got off the train and followed Werner's instructions. We met on the sidewalk in front of the Seeland Kafe in Biel. He ran up to us and gave both Joyce and I big hugs. When we sat down in the Kafe, I asked Werner, "I have seen your name written, but how do you say your name?" Being a German speaker, he asked me what I meant. I asked, "How do you pronounce your surname?" He replied, "Shock-leen". So, after almost 175 years after the family stopped using their original name, we had finally heard it spoken.

We were now ready to start writing the book. I was elected. It would be 6 years later that it was finished.

NEEDED TOOLS

Interpreters-Live and digital(SDL one of the better. Also Babel Fish)

Dictionaries: Whatever the common language of the area you are working in. For us it was French, and German. Plus the language of the church—Latin. And some dialect variations, i.e., Alsatian and Swabian.

Familiarity with the maps, town names, and geographical-political divisions within the area or region you are researching in: you need to be able to recognize both the English and area language spelling and pronunciation of the places you are looking for.

Familiarity with history of the towns, region, and country you are researching: Wikipedia is a good quick reference, but not reliable in all cases. Even most European towns have a native language and English version of their histories on their websites now.

Filing system: whether it be digital folders in your Documents on your desktop or laptop, or physical file cabinets, you need an organized method of storing your research results. Digital is fine, if you regularly back up on CD or DVD. Flash drives and external hard drives, but can still easily be erased. I like old school, and print out on paper all my emails and research results. Once I have finished a project, then I go through and cull out extraneous items and discard them.

Computer and internet access, and good antiviral software: Many of the foreign researchers will not respond unless your emails indicate the presence of antiviral certification.

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN WESTERN EUROPE

Courage and cordiality: Do not be afraid to contact whoever you believe might hold the info you need. Be courteous, do not pressure them for a quick response. If you know enough of their native language, always address them in their language, and explain that you are more comfortable using English. But be sure you check your use of their language with the on-line translator before you hit “send”.

Some kind of family tree software: This is primarily for use as a record keeping tool, or a means of quick reference, if you need to demonstrate documentation. (Geni, Family Tree Maker, My Heritage/free). I constantly refer to paper version of Gedcom and name index for my family and all who have married into the family.

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Gordon Bennett greets David Schochler at the Family History Fair
Note that Mr. Schochler is the costume of the area and time his ancestors moved from Europe.

Alto Families-Pictures, Papers, etc.

	Donor #
2 Postcards of young man- Billy Wisener	S-02
Portrait- William & Adeline Blanton (1 st Mayor) & Children	S-03
John Hassell-- Story of family history	H-03
Hassell Family Genealogy (with Genealogy Material)	H-03
Holcomb Reunion- Photo- 1903 (Id's on Back)	H-03
Joseph Lawrence Schochler Photo-- 1816-1902	H-03
Nancy Jane Summers and son Joe on porch of home	H-03
Typed Note of CSA Army Service William A. Summers	H-03
Xerox copy photo-- William Jennett & Marian Russell Hassell	H-03
Wedding Story-- Erna Kennedy & Joe Merriwether	K-01
Prescription-- Mrs. Jewel Singletary by Dr. F. A. Fuller	K-02
Mamie Lathan- Kerchief carried to 1908 Graduation	L-01
By Rena Luker, Portrait in folding cardboard case	L-01
Postcard, St. Louis 1910, of Edward Boyd, Mrs. Hester Boyd, Bertha (Bolton) Richdale, Cecil E. Boyd	L-01
Earl Latham, Mrs Alma Watters (Photo)	L-01
Lucile Watters (Green), Lula Couch (Blount), Zona Latham (Boyd), Addie Pyles, Nellie K. Watters (Miller). Mamie Latham (Photo)	L-01
Mr. Cook, Mr. Atkinson, Miss Myrtle Rook, Flora Finch Wright, Mrs. Addie (Pyle) Wells, Mrs. Bertha (Bolton) Richdale, Miss Pearl Sessions, Miss Mamie Latham (Photo)	L-01
George T. Avery Invitation to Funeral	L-01
Unidentified Family Photo around 1900	M-04
Unidentified Family Photo around 1900	M-04
Unidentified Baby Photos around 1900	M-04
Unidentified Family Photo around 1900 "Wilson Children" on back	M-06
John W. Crain to S. T. Harrison (photocopy of letter)	M-07
Joe Summers Papers	
Joe Summers: Drug Store Almanac used as Diary 1880	R-01
Joe Summers: Drug Store Almanac used as Diary 1881	R-01
Joe Summers: Monthly statement from Freeman Company	R-01
W. W. & Mary Ann Todd to Joe Summers 1876-1890 (letters)	R-01

Alto Families-Pictures, Papers, etc.

	Donor #
Joe Summers: Envelope from Buffalo, New York Dec. 4, 1897	R-01
W. B. Fountain to Joe Summers 1882-1884 (letters)	R-01
W. J. Fox to Joe Summers 1890-1904 (letters)	R-01
To Joe Summers from Uncle Aunt and Cousins with some Envelopes- some typed copies 1889-1892	R-01
Banks Youree, Newman – Letters of Estate- 9 for 1888-1892 & one letter in 1913	R-01
One Power of Attorney & several envelopes	R-01
Z. S. Holcomb to Joe Summers 3 letters & 1 postcard 1896-1899	R-01
Theodore Summers- US Navy to Joe Summers 1905-06	R-01
J. A. Johnston to Joe Summers 1876-91 (letters)	R-01
A. A. Shattuck to W. J. Summers 1912 (Postcard)	R-01
New Haven Chair Co. -- Repairs to wheelchair April 7, 1896 (letter)	R-01
Ins Co. To J. G. Summers-- Bond for W. J Summers (letter)	R-01
Legislative Committee of Tax Collector's Ass'n concerning Senate Bill – Feb. 1905 (letter)	R-01
W. J. Summers to J. E. Bowling April 1905 (Registered Letter)	R-01
Walter Wiley to W. J. Summers concerning County Purchasing Agent May 14, 1905 (letter)	R-01
Extract from Revised Statutes concerning payment to State Treasury	R-01
W. A. Pope letter sent by J. A. Fountain	R-01
Floyd, John, & Ophelia, Frances, Dr. & Mrs Jim Hil farm – by Chloe Floyd	W-01
Jennie Cribs (Halbert), Sue Cribs (Halbert) & Ada Cribs	W-02
Holcomb, Colvin age 3 or 4 (Photo)	H-01
Finan Smith Papers	
Grace Evelyn Smith and Mother, Louise (photo)	F-02
4 photos of young man, young women, & young man with baby	F-02
Wedding Invitation Margaret Louise Blanton & John Finan Smith 1915	F-02
Obit- Alto Herald- Nov. 5, 1942 – Hunter Smith	F-02
Charles Decker to Grace Evelyn Smith 1931 (letter)	F-02
Hunter Smith to Grace Evelyn Smith (sister) 1942 (letter)	F-02
Hunter Smith to Parents from Texas A&M 1941	F-02
Newspaper clipping of Photo of Frazier Fuqua's twin daughters of Central High Community 1925	D-01
1 Box papers from Joseph W. Summers Estate	93-01
7 Newspapers 1856-1889	93-01
2 Wooden Boxes 1 with Medicine Bottles, 1 with various letters & postcards to Joe Summers	93-01
Cancelled checks from settlement of estate of Joe Summers by Half brother, J. L. Middleton	93-01

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CHEROKEE COUNTY

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Jacksonville, Texas 75766-1332

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Date of Application _____ Paid through 8/31/ _____

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Two-Member household \$20.00 _____ Renewal _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ 9-digit Zip Code _____

Phone Number (include area code): _____ E-mail Address _____

Maiden Name (if applicable) _____

Surnames you are researching: _____

Gift of _____, bill to: _____

Complete the information above, make out your check, and mail to:

Cherokee County Genealogical Society

Post Office Box 1332

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